FOHN SHERMAN PROBABLY PER-SUADED TO BE PREMIER.

Yost-Tucker Contest-Etc.

FOR NAVY PORTFOLIO. New Phase of Pacific R. R. Problem-Alger for Secretary of War-Merriam, of Minnesota, for the Treasury-Young Lee's Misfortune-

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 14 .-(Special.)-The Cabinet - makers have about exhausted all the senatorial material available, and have not so far succeeded in constructing the proper kind of an article for Major McKinley. They are laboriously trying to utilize John Sherman for Secretary of State, but the venerable Senator from Ohio cannot be handled very easily. Mark Hanna would fill his place in the Senate, and he dislikes the idea of giving the entire control of Ohio to the McKinley faction. It is, however, contended by many that he will yet be prevailed upon to accept the portfolio of State, and that this makes the starting point in the building of a cabinet. In such event, it is rumored that Bliss, of New York, will be the Secretary of the Navy; that Alger will be Secretary of War, and Governor Merriam, of Minnesota, Secretary of the Treasury. The others are not named, and this slate may

all wrong. There is much regret expressed here among the friends of General Fitzhugh Lee at the failure of his son, George Mason, to pass the recent examination at West Point. The young gentleman was perfect in every branch but drawing, and for this only he was "plucked." General Hancock's son, who failed in the same class on philosophy a more performs. class on philosophy, a more serious de-ficiency than that of young Lee, was voluntarily reinstated by the board. Secrelaw he has no authority to relinstate a cadet who falls at an
examination. An effort to bring the
case of young Lee before the Academic
Board will be successful, it is thought,
and it is believed that he will be again

and it is believed that he will be again admitted to the academy.

The many friends of Mr. Stephen McG. Fisher in this city heard with the most unfeigned regret of his death yesterday. and his widow and family have their sympathy in this hour of their sad afflic-tion. Mr. Fisher was well known to the colony of Virginians here, to the Masonic fraternity, and to numerous business-men, with whom he had frequent trans-actions, and he had the love of many and the esteem and admiration and re-spect of all.

NORFOLK POSTMASTERSHIP.

Senator Martin had a long conference this morning with Representative Tyler in relation to the vacant postmastership at Norfolk, Va. Mr. Tyler has not yet determined whom he will recommend to fill the vacancy, but will probably do so in a day or two. As it has been customary lately to allow postmasters to serve out the full term for which they were apthe full term for which they were appointed (four years), it is strongly intimated here that on account of the short time remaining to the present administration, there will be strong opposition offered by the Republicans to the confirmation by the Senate of the appointed to the Norfolk office.

It has been agreed finally that the Yost-Turker contested election case will be

Tucker contested election case will be heard in the House on next Monday or Mr. McCall, of Massachus Tuesday, Mr. McCall, of Massachusetts, will defend the majority report of his committee, which favors the retention of Mr. Tucker in his seat, while the minority views of the committee will be repre-sented by General Walker, of Virginia.

The bill for the relief of Mr. Thomas Williams, and to allow him damages in the sum of \$1.500 for injuries received at the Capitol while in the employ of the government, was called up in the House this morning; but went over, on account regulate interstate commerce. The right of the objection of Representative Cox, of Tennessee. Mr. Williams is a native of Virginia, and was formerly a resident of Fredericksburg, Va.

of Fredericksburg, Va.

Among the awards made at the poultry
show in this city, were the following:
To J. M. Hamblin, Vienna, Va., for silver Wyandotte cockerels, first and second prizes; to E. K. Wheeler, Fredericksburg the prize for black or blue cocks, and to the same three other prizes in the fantailpigeon class

PERSONAL ITEMS. Senator Daniel has accepted an invitasenator bannet mas accepted an acceptant tion to attend a banquet to be given by the R. E. Lee Camp of Confederate Veterans, of Alexandria, on the anniversary of General Lee's birthday, and he will respond to the toast, "Johnnie

Mrs. Polk Miller has been in the city for several days, and is stopping at the

Mrs. C. A. Swanson, wife of Congress man Swanson, of Virginia, led the cotil-lon at the first dance of the season, given by the Cotillon Club of this city, at the National Rifles' Armory last, night The occasion was a brilliant and successful affair. Mrs. Swanson wore a lovely gown of pink and white and pale-blue striped slik, trimmed handsomely with pearl passementerie and pink chiffon. Mrs. Swanson, I have omitted to say previously, was one of the patronesses of the grand ball given by the ladies of the the greatest social event of recent years, and she represented the State of Virginia

Polk Miller gave a performance, which s well attended, at Rockville, Md., last J. S. Spencer and wife, of Virginia, are

at the Hotel Emrich.
C. J. Kenedy and J. Kenedy, of Rolland, Va., are at the Hotel Jefferson.
E. Powers, of Richmond, Va., is at the St. James.
C. Smith, of Richmond, Va., and C. N.

and wife, of North Carolina, are at the National.

W. W. Green and G. W. Warren and wife, of Virginia, are at the Raleigh. CUBAN POSTAGE-STAMPS.

According to our postal regulations, letters bearing Cuban stamps, Postmaster-General Wilson decides to-day, must be delivered as other mail matter is. S. far as the Post-Office Department is con perned, the decision is understood to be ely on technical grounds, is understood that the question is under consideration by the State Department. It may be a step in the process of developing an affirmative Cuban policy on the part of the ad-ministration. Representative Sparkman, of Florida, sati to me to-night, with some positiveness, that a settlement of the Cuban question would be effected within the next six months on the lines indi-cated in President Cleveland's message. Cuban independence, he says, is not probable. Annexation, he thinks, is impossible, but autonomy that will bring bout peace and commercial tranquility s certain. This may not be accomplished uring Mr. Cleveland's Administration. because of party differences growing out of the late campaign, but will come about soon after the inauguration of the Re-

publican administration. COAL-LAND DEAL

Colonel George W. Palmer, of Saltville, Colonel George W. Palmer, of Saltville, Ya., stopped here to-day on his return from Philadelphia, and dined with ex-Congressmen Connelly F. Trigg at the Metropolitan. Mr. Palmer, who is the owner of extensive coal properties in Bouthwest Virginia, had been to Philadelphia, where, it is understood, he has interested capitalists in the coal regions not far from Pocahontas, in Tazewell county. It is stated that Colonel Palmer panty. It is stated that Colonel Palmer as been successful in making a deal by hich the sale of extensive coal-lands on le line of the Cripple-Creek extension of the Norfolk and Western railway will be ade. Colonel Palmer left for home this

Charles Buford, of Winston, N. C.,

who is connected with the Southern rail-way, and is a relative of Colonel A. T. Buford, of Richmond, is in the city on business, stopping at the Raleigh. Mr. Jake T. Anderson and Mr. Alfred Carey, of Richmond, are registered at the Raleigh.

SENATE AND HOUSE.

Micaragua Canal. WASHINGTON, January 14.-A new phase of the Pacific railroad problem was resented in the Senate to-day, in the form of a resolution offered by Mr. Morgan, instructing the Judiciary Committee gan, instructing the Judenary Committee to inquire whether, by the very fact that certain of the bonds of the Union and Central Pacific Railroad companies had fallen due and were not paid, the property of those companies had not become and was not now the property of the United States. The resolution went over

The House bill for free homesteads on The House bill for free homesteads on the public lands in Oklahoma Territory, which has been the "unfinished business" in the Senate since the first week of the present session, came to avote to-day after three hours' debate, and was passed—yeas, 35; nays, II. It was first amended in a very important particular, by striking out the words "in the Territory of Oklahoma," thus making it apply to all public lands acquired from the various public lands acquired from the various Indian tribes. It provides that all set-tlers on those lands shall be entitled to patents, on payment of the usual and customary fees, and that no further charge of any kind shall be required. It provides, by another Senate amendment, if not released would belong to any In-dian tribe, shall be paid to such tribe by the United States. The bill now goes ick to the House for action on the

The army appropriation bill was re-certed back from the Committee on ap-ropriations, and was placed on the calen-

The printing of 3,500 extra copies of the The printing of 3,500 extra copies of the Anglo-American arbitration treaty, and 2,000 extra copies of the memorandum recently presented by Mr. Hale (Republican), of Maine, as to the right of recognizing foreign governments, was ordered. The Senate bill for an examination of the improvements at the Pass of Aransas Tex., was taken from the calendar and passed.

passed.

Mr. Morgan moved to proceed to the consideration of the Senate bill to amend the act to incorporate the Maritime Canal Company of Nicaragus. The vote was: Yeas, 33; nays, 6-no quorum. The negative votes were cast by Messrs. Berry, Blackburn, Chilton, Cockrell, Gray, and

Teller.

Mr. Morgan moved a call of the Senate, but Mr. Hill remarked that it was too late to attempt to get a quorum, and he moved an adjournment. The motion was agreed to, and the Senate, at 4:30 P. M., adjourned until Monday next.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. When the House met this morning, many members waited impatiently in their seats for business to begin. Each had a printed copy of some bill in his hand, eagerly hoping to get it through under the unnimous consent rule. When the the unanimous-consent rule. When the Journal had been read a score of members were on their feet, crying for re-cognition, and business went along merrily for awhile. A number of private pension and other minor bills were pass-

Mr. Fitzgerald (Democrat), of Massa chusetts, secured the passage of a resolu-tion, calling on the Secretary of the Navy for an estimate of the cost of put ting the frigate Constitution in co tion to make the journey from Ports-mouth, N. H., to Washington, to be used as a naval museum.

The bill, discussed yesterday, to make

oleomargarine and all other imitation dairy products subject to the laws of the State or Territory into which they are transported was called up by Mr. Grout (Republican), of Vermont, and discussed by Messrs, Cooper (Democrat) Florida, and Tucker (Democrat), of Virginia, in opposition, and Messrs. North-way (Republican), of Ohio, and Morse (Republican), of Massachusetts, in favor

of it.

The opposition was on the general ground that the bill provided an interof a State to prevent the importation within its boundaries of a product which the laws of that State prohibited was the basis for the arguments in favor of the measure.
The opposition, however, did not prove

formidable on the yea and nay vote on the third reading, which the opponents of the measure accepted as final. The yeas were 126, and the nays, 96. Some amendments to perfect the measure were

agreed to without opposition.

The President's message vetoing the bill to create a new judicial district in Texas was referred to the Committee on

Sherman (Republican), of New York, presented the Indian appropriation

The House then, at 4:52, adjourned un-

CUBAN STAMPS IN THE MAILS.

What Are We Going to Do About Them?

WASHINGTON, January 14.-The ap pearance of the stamps of the so-called Cuban Republic in the United States mails has caused much comment here, and was the source of some discussion at the Post-office Department to-day, as to whether such stamps could be recog-nized as proper for the transmission of mails into the United States, as this government has not recognized Cuba as a free and independent country. This is probably the first case of its kind where insurgents have established their own post-offices and used their own stamps. which were transmitted in the mails to

At the Post-office Department it was stated that these stamps were good, so far as the United States was concerned, as our postal laws require only that the stamps be properly cancelled, and that the envelopes containing the mail-matter bear the postmark of a regular post-office. These regulations have been compiled with, so far as the department Had they not been admissible knows. Had they not been admissible, the letters bearing these stamps would have been marked with the letter T, at

the United States.

the receiving office in this country, mean-ing "tax-collect."

The department knows nothing about the post-office stamped on the envelope, except that it is in Spanish territory, and Spain is in the International Postal Union. These stamps might give rise to Julion. These stamps might give rise to delicate diplomatic question, in which the Post-office Department would take no part, but refer the matter to the Department of State for settlement.

ANOTHER CHANCE FOR YOUNG LEE Official Action in His Behalf-Extenuating Circumstances.

WASHINGTON, January 14.-Among the thirty cadets dropped from the Military Academy as the result of the January examinations was George Mason Lee, fourth-class, of Virginia, son of the American Consul-General at Habana, who was found deficient in several studies. Secretary Lamont has referred this case, together with that of Philip S. Ward, of New York, similarly dropped, to the Academy Board for reconsideration, it being represented that there were extenuating circumstances in each instance. The decision of the board is final in such matters.

Prominent Printers Asphyxlated, NEW YORK, January 14.-William Ferguson and James McKenna were found dead in a room of the Harlem Hotel this morning. The men occupied the room together. They had been asphyxiated by

illuminating-gas.

Ferguson and McKenna were prominent members of Typographical Union, No. 6. Ferguson was the secretary and treasurer of "Big Six," and McKenna was at one time vice-president of the Interna-

OLD CAPITAL.

THE QUARTERLY MEETING OF THE HOSPITAL BOARD.

Guests-Report of the Superintendent-The New Infirmary Building-Contemplated Improvements to an Old Residence-Home-Seekers.

WILLIAMSBURG, VA., January 14 .-(Special.)-There was a full attendance yesterday at the regular quarterly meeting of the Board of Directors of the Eastern State Hospital, and the board had with them as their guests during the day Dr. C. W. P. Brock, of Richmond, for nine years a member of this board, and G. C. Gary, a member of the Central Hospital Board. This was Mr. Gary's first visit here, and he was highly pleased with the condition of the wards and grounds, and with the general management of the institution.

A REPORT. The superintendent read his report, from which is taken the following: Number of patients in hospital, October 1. 1896, 539; admitted during the quarter, 29 whole number treated, 550; discharged restored, 17; died, 9. In the institution, December 31, 1896, 524. Average number

present, 527. new infirmary building has now been completed, and an order was passed directing the Executive Committee of the board to furnish the same, and it is the intention of the hospital authorities occupy the building as soon as possi

Postmaster Archer Brooks left for Richmond this evening to remain until Satur-

Mr. Edward Langhorn, of Lynchburg. is visiting at Mr. John L. Mercer's, east Francis street. Mr. Langhorn is here attending to some business connected with the estate of the late Major H. M. Wal-

CONTEMPLATED IMPROVEMENTS. The deed for the purchase of the Vest property, east Main street, was filed with the County Clerk yesterday. The property was purchased by Mr. Arthur Denmead, late of Baltimore city, for \$3,500 cash, through N. L. Henley, attorney. It is now rented, but possession will be given August 1st, when Mr. Denmead will begin to improve greatly both the main building and the grounds for his residence, and will remove the for his residence, and will remove the two brick walls on Main street, erect-ing in their place a handsome iron fence. "Four home-seekers from Michigan and Canada came here yesterday and pur-chased land on the King's-Mill Colony track. They will begin to build as soon as the weather permits. They state that a large number from their sections will a large number from their sections will visit the Colony in the spring."

THE COCKADE CITY. An Assignment-The Sick-Took Second Prize.

PETERSBURG, VA., January 14.—(Special.)—Mr. W. Fred. Wahman, a well-known and popular young merchant on Sycamore street, dealing in upholstery, rpets, pictures, and fancy goods, to-day nade an assignment to Mr. W. B. McIl waine, as trustee, for the benefit of his creditors. His liabilities are placed at \$4,200, and his assets consist of his stock of goods, which will not be sufficient, under enforced sale, to pay the liabilities.

PERSONAL AND GENERAL. Mr. John Ruffin, a well-known citizen, Mr. John Rullin, a well-known chizen, is seriously ill of pneumonia.

Mr. Thomas L. Shippen, Collector of Customs at the port of Petersburg, has been confined to his bed by sickness for

wo or three days. Mr. A. L. Bowman, formerly of this city, has been awarded the second com-petitive prize design for the bridge to be

rected over the St. Lawrence river, at Montreal. There were many plans submitted for this bridge, and the second in merit is a high honor, and commands a fee The condition of Mr. J. Finley McIlwaine, who is ill of pneumonia, is but lit-

tle changed to-day. Mr. Mcliwaine was for some years the City Auditor, and was for some years the City Auditor, and was the chairman of the Democratic party when the city was redeemed from Repub-lican rule. He is one of the noblest-hearted men that ever lived. Mr. John Garland Pollard, of Richmond, to-night delivered the annual address be-leaster Young Papole's Union of

fore the Baptist Young People's Union of West-End church. An oyster supper will be given at Prince

George to-morrow evening for the benefit of Merchant's Hope church. of Merchant's Hope church.

It may be candidly stated that the merchants of Petersburg do not experience any improvement in business since the presidential election, and do not anticipate any improvement for some time to

ROANOKE.

A Good Showing-Confiscated Whiskey Sold.

ROANOKE, VA., January 14.—(Special.) At a meeting of the stockholders of the Roanoke Public Library to-day the following officers were elected: President, Mrs. E. H. Ravenel; Secretary, Mrs. M. Mrs. E. H. Ravenel; Secretary, Mrs. M. G. Hill; Treasurer, Mrs. Broughham. The annual report of the president, Mrs. Ravenel, who was re-elected, shows that the library is in a flourishing condition, with sixty-four subscribers, over 1,000 volumes of good books on the shelves, and an income sufficient to meet expenses.

Samuel Wright (colored) was found guilty of robbery by a tury in the Hus-

guilty of robbery by a jury in the Hus-tings Court to-day, and sentenced to two tings Court to-day, and sentenced to two years in the penitentiary. He had not been out of the penitentiary a month before he committed the last offence.

Deputy United States Marshal J. P. Johnson, of Wytheville, sold 650 gallons of whiskey here to-day, which had been confiscated from a firm of Roanoke county for violations of the internal-revenue laws. The whiskey brought from \$1.25 to

laws. The whiskey brought from \$1.25 to \$1.50 per gallon. Rev. Father Thomas Waters, formerly of this city, but who was ordained a priest recently in Baltimore, has been called to Richmond for duty by Bishop

Van de Vyver. The civil-serv civil-service examinations for positions in the Engineering Department of the United States Government, which have been in progress here for three days, closed this evening, and the papers are now ready to be sent to Washington for inspection.

Death of Charles M. Brand. Mr. Charles M. Brand died yesterday norning at a quarter past 7 o'clock, at Mr. Charlets S.

morning at a quarter past 7 o'clock, at
Nelson's Sanitarium. Charlottesville,
where he was carried about ten days
ago for treatment. Mr. Brand was in
the 41st year of his age, and a native of
Charlottesville, where he had resided the
most of his life. He was a printer by
trade, and for several years owned and
conducted a book- and job-printing office in the city; but for the past few
years held the position of city editor on
the Charlottesville Daily Progress, and
was also the Charlottesville correspondent of the Richmond Dispatch. He was was also the Charlottesville correspondent of the Richmond Dispatch. He was the eldest son of Mr. William Brand, a highly-respected citizen of Charlottesville, and was an active, energetic, and painstaking newspaper-man. He married Miss Ella Goode, of Lynchburg, who survives him. He was a member of several secret societies, among them of several secret societies, among them

Assignment in Louisa. LOUISA, VA., January 14.—(Special.)—A deed of assignment, executed by Stapleton D. Gooch and Mary E. Gooch, his wife, to R. L. Gordon, Jr., trustee, has just been admitted to record in our Clerk's office, conveying certain real and excessed presents. Clerk's office, conveying control of the liabilities are estimated at about \$60,000. Mr. Gooch has been an exceedingly liberal man. He has large interests in western railroad contracts.

Fine Country Residence Burned. NEW ROCHELLE, N. Y., January Adrain and the style of work (selin, Jr., and occupied by the Morse sure to please you.

School, took fire for a second time at 2 o'clock this morning, and was completely destroyed. The building was one of the finest in lower Westchester county, and was built of marble. The first fire broke out at 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon, and was extinguished, after damaging the castle to the extent of \$20.000. The total destruction of the cast \$20,000. The total destruction of the cas tle, it is estimated, involves a loss of

CHARGE AGAINST JUDGE REESE. Testimony as to Alleged Intoxica-

tion-The Sweat Case. ATLANTA, GA., January 14.-The harge against Judge Scaborne Reese of being intoxicated on the bench was taken up to-day by the House committee. All the testimony related to the September term of court in Madison county last year. Several witnesses swore that the Judge's charge to the grand jury was unusualmore in the nature of a temperance lec-ture than a regular charge. Some witnesses stated that Judge Reese was in-toxicated. Others declared that he was not intoxicated.

Berry Alexander, of Franklin county, stated that Judge Reese, speaking of Tom Watson, remarked, with an oath, "He ought to be in h—." There was a spirited debate between

John D. Shannon, a witness, and Senator Carter, the author of the charges, Senator Carter tried to get a direct answer from Mr. Shannon on Judge Reese's con-dition. Mr. Shannon answered that he would not swear that Judge Reese was either intoxicated or soher. The Sheriff of Madison county stated that he took a ntleman's drink with Judge Reese or the morning the court was opened. He did not consider the Judge intoxicated s his Honor shaved himself and opened ourt with the same hand. It came out in the testimony that the Judge's charge created a great deal of discussion. Some who heard it declared that it was a serwho heard it declared that it was a ser-mon. Others thought it was a moral lec-ture, and still others pronounced it a tem-perance address. Some said that the Judge was intoxicated at the time, and Judge was intoxicated at the time, and others answered that if it were true, he ought to be kept intoxicated all the time, because his charge was a good one.

Other witnesses stated that it was a

good thing, but in the wrong place. The Judge did not call the attention of the jury to all the law usually reviewed by judges when addressing grand juries. It was testified that the Judge uttered an oath two or three times at dinner, but was

This afternoon the committee took up the Sweat case again, and Bryan Collier; Colt R. Mills, of Griffin: T. A. Parker, of Baxley, and Jacob Beach, of Glynn coun-ty, were examined. Collier was manager of the Wigwam Hotel two years ago. He was informed by his housekeeper of sup-posedly improper conduct on the part of Judge Sweat. Mr. Beach stated that Judge Reese was his guest at the hotel, and he declared positively that nothing improper in the Judge's conduct occurred luring their stay at the resort.

The investigation will be resumed to-

MIDWINTER RACING.

Bookmakers Get the Bulk of the Spoils.

NEW ORLEANS, January 14.-Warm weather and a large attendance marked the racing here to-day. Favorites only won twice, however, and the bookmakers got the bulk of the spoils.

First race—selling, seven furlongs—Gismonda (%, Songer, 4 to 1) won, with Sauterne second, and Trilby third. Time,

Second race-selling, one mile-Sharon (167, Scherrer, 2 to 1) won, with Candy second, and Jack Hayes third. Time, Third race—selling, mile and a six-teenth—Dorothy III. (Hirsch, 7 to 2) won,

with Fasig second, and Ida Pickwick third. Time, 1:49. Fourth race-handicap, six furlongs-Gaston (94, T. Burns, 4 to 5) won, with Anger second, and Lady Brittie third.

Fifth race-selling, seven furlongs-Buckmore (166, Dorsey, 2) to 1) won, with C. C. Rumrill second, and Noves third. Sixth race-selling, six furlongs-Marquise (169, Reiff, 7 to 2) won, with Maggie

ond, and Dorah Woods third, Time,

1:14 1-2. IRON AND STEEL TRADE.

Same Old Waiting for Something to Turn Up. PITTSBURG, PA., January 14.-The

American Manufacturer, in its edition tomorrow, will say concerning the outlook in the iron and steel trade:

The iron and steel situation throughout the country shows nothing more than a general dulness, and the same old waiting for something to turn up. At no point is there anything special noted by our market correspondents this week. At Philadelphia, the activity noted recently suddenly stopped, and a large amount of promised business is large amount of promised business is being held up. In the West, the mar-ket is still waiting for the expected im-provement. The most activity shown is in merchant steel. Pig-iron in the Chi-cago market shows a little more life than it did some time ago. Southern brands are a little weaker. Louisville reports a much better feeling in pigbrands are a little weaker. Louisville reports a much better feeling in Digiron. It seems that some extremely low prices are being taken for Bessemer steel. Wheeling reports quite low figures in that line, but generally speaking, the flurry shown recently has subsided. There are no new developments shown in pool matters.

SINKING OF THE COMMODORE. Report of Government Inspectors on Its Cause.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 14 .-Leo Vogel and Charles A. Spencer, United States steamboat inspectors at Jacksonville, Fla., have reported to the Treasury Department the result of their investigation as to the sinking of the filibustering steamer Commodore. They
find that the vessel was fully equipped
in all respects. The report further says:
"Our opinion of the sinking of the
steamer Commodore is that it was due to the complication of pipes for freeing the vessel of water not being fully un-derstood by the engineers' department."
"As regards the loss of life, the report states that, "for some unknown refi-son," a boat containing six men returned to the vessel, and the men endeavored to rig up a raft, and were carried down when the ship sank. The loss of the when the ship sank. The loss of the vessel is placed at \$15,000, and of the cargo at \$4,800. The report says that Captain Murphy did all in his power to saye officers and

PASS A L'OUTRE CREVASSE.

Consideration of Appropriation Bill Postponed-Vest Objection.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 14 .-Senator Caffery, of Louisiana, got out of a sick-bed this morning to attend the meeting of the Committee on Commerce, for the purpose of submitting his report on the bill to appropriate \$250,000 for stopon the bill to appropriate scale for acop-ping the crevasse at Pass a l'Outre, near the mouth of the Mississippi. It was useless, however, for the matter was postponed a week, on account of objec-

postponed a week, on account of objection from Mr. Vest.

Mr. Caffery finds in his report that the Eads people have not kept to the letter of their contract with the government; that they have maintained the channel in the river by dredging, instead of by means of the jettles. This dereliction of alleged duty is criticised by Mr. Caffery, and he recommends the passage of the bill, but requires the money to be paid by the Eads estate. It was on account of this provision that Mr. Vest objected.

Orders for printing sent to the Dispatch Company will be given prompt attention, and the style of work and prices will be

ACROSS THE BORDER.

THE SENATORIAL TURMOIL IN THE OLD NORTH STATE.

cenator Pritchard's Declaration That He Would Co-Operate with the Bolting Populists Causes Sensation-Opinions-Brief Mention

RALEIGH, N. C., January 14 .- (Special.)-Senator Pritchard's declaration to your correspondent at midnight last night, that he would co-operate with the bolting Populists caused a sensation to-day, as well it might. Populist - State - Committeeman Otho

Wilson said of it: "It settles the mat-

er, so far as Pritchard can speak, but it

does not settle it so far as the Republican party is concerned. If the Repubican party prefers the election of Pritchard, the 'flopper' for a six-years' term to the protection of the rights of its which the Republicans have laim are secured by the aid of Populists, way, let them make this choice. Populist-State-Chairman Ayer says: " say that, if the Republicans desire to deal with the bolting faction of the Populists, they must understand that hereafter in any political battle they may have they must fight alone, so far as

SETTLE'S OPINION. Congressman Settle said: "It seems to me the play is ended, and that Pritchard wins out. I expect to return to Wash-ington to-night."

will be bent to beat the minority, who

will use such a temporary advantage."

of the majority of the Populists

the Populists are concerned.

Ex-Congressman "Buck" Kitchen ar-rived this morning to take a hand in the senatorial "scrap." Governor Russell was at the executive office a short time to-day. He was sick yesterday, which was the cause of his non-appearance.

Some of the 5,000 copies of that fine rork, "The Resources of North Carowork, "The Resources of North Caro-lina," issued by the Agricultural Department, have arrived. Rev. Dr. Marshall, rector of Christ church here, who had an attack of vertigo while preaching last Sunday, was worse to-day. It is said the cause of the vertigo is acute indigestion.

About three inches of snow fell here.
It was followed by rain, and a heavy

siect formed. This morning a rapid thaw began, and the snow guickly meltchairman, and W. E. Fountain, of Tar-boro', succeeds him.

Governor Russell accepts the resignation of Adjutant-General Cameron and designates Major E. M. Hayes, United States army, as Acting Adjutant-General. Populist State Committeemen say to-night that they want Congressman Skinner and his tribe of bolting Populists to jump to the Republican party.

NO CHANGE AT RALEIGH. Unless the Unexpected Happens, Pritchard Will Win.

RALEIGH, N. C., January 14.-There is no change whatever in the senatorial situation to-night. Unless something unexpected happens, Pritchard will be reelected next Tuesday.

WELDON GLEANINGS. Enjoyable German-The Industries at Ronnoke Rapids.

WELDON, N. C., January 14 -(Special.)-The Weldon German Club gave a delightful dance at Emry's Hall last evening. Mr. T. C. Harrison led, with Miss Carrie Kean, of Lynchburg, Va. Twelve other couples participated, and all appeared to enjoy the occasion immensely.

Snow fell here yesterday to the depth.

Milty of doubt? Of course it cannot. You of four inches, but is disappearing rapidly

to-day.

It is learned that the Maxwells, of New York, have sold their interest in the knit-ting-mill at Roanoke Rapids to the Chanlers. The mill has been shut down since Christmas and many hands are thrown out of employment. It is said that the mill will resume operations that the mill will resume operations. February 1st, but it is also said that it has shut down for an indefinite period,

and that it will be late in the spring before it will start up again.

The machinery in the cotton-mill at the same place is being rapidly placed, and it is stated by one of the owners that the mill will heart or continue. that the mill will begin operations by

Misses Mabel and Kate Leach, of Littleton, are visiting the family of Mr. Paul Garrett, at Chockayotte. Miss Annie Grigg, of Petersburg, is visiting her sister here, Mrs. T. S. Jones.

CHARLOTTE BANK TO LIQUIDATE. Withdrawal of a Fund-Affairs in

Good Shape. CHARLOTTE, N. C., January 14.-At the annual meeting of the stockholders of the Charlotte Loan and Savings Bank, held yesterday, it was decided to go into liquidation, and wind up the affairs of that institution. It appeared that the Craig investment in the bank was desired that institution. It appeared that the Craig investment in the bank was desired to be placed elsewhere, and this being a controlling interest in the bank, it was decided that the best course to pursue would be to wind up the business of the bank. Mr. John Oates declined a reelection as president of the bank, on account of his other business engagements, and Mr. J. A. Craig was appointed to succeed him. Mr. L. S. Battle was continued as cashier.

At the meeting of the stockholders, President Cates submitted his report, which showed the bank to be in a perfectly sound and healthy condition, and its affairs in good shape. It will go out of business without the loss of a dollar to any stockholder or depositor.

DURHAM New Judge Gives Satisfaction-A Rector to Wed.

DURHAM, N. C., January 14 .- (Special.)-Judge Allen, who is presiding at this court this week, for the first time satisfaction to the lawyers and community generally. He seems to be ready and prompt in all his decisions, and while fust, is merciful. A murder trial was begun this morning at the opening of court. W. R. Barbee killed a man in a saloon last June, and his trial had been put off from time to time until this morn-

Cards are out for the marriage of Rev. A. A. Pruden, a Virginian, rector of St. Philip's Episcopal church, of this place, and Miss Minnie Happer, daughter of Mrs. Mary Marshall Happer. The happy event will take place in the church on the 77th of this month.

SCOTLAND NECK. Death of a Venerable Citizen-

County Obligations. SCOTLAND NECK, N. C., January 14 .-(Special.)-Mr. Edwin Whitehead, one of the oldest and most respected citizens of yesterday. the community, died yesterday morning at his home; in the country, six miles from town; aged nearly 80 years. He was a man of most remarkable physical endu-He leaves a large circle of friends rance. He leaves a large circle of friends and relatives in the community.

Mrs. Elizabeth Mills died in Scotland Neck yesterday morning, aged 54 years. She had been a sufferer for a long time. Snow fell here nearly all day yesterday, but it has melted, until there is not much on the ground.

on the ground.

The new Board of County Commis-

sioners ordered an investigation of the financial condition of the county, and the committee reports that the county has assumed future obligations amounting to more than \$10,000, but much of thi unt is for the new vault and jail, which were built last year.

In Favor of a Constitutional Convention.

Franklin, Va., January 14, 1897. To the Editor of the Dispatch: I notice in your issue of yesterday yo leader about "Conventions Enough," fully agree with you that it visable to have a national Democrati-convention this year. It is not necessary to go into details as to why, particular as that is not the subject I wish to write upon. My object in writing this com-munication is to combat your view to the ffect that it is not wise to order a co stitutional convention next spring. I wil not consider the question as to wi a constitutional convention is needed or The existence of such necessity y admit, and it is the consensus of opinior that our Legislature can never frame laws to make our expenses come within our income until the whole framework of our government shall have been re-constructed, and that the question of election laws will never cease troubling the State until it shall have been settled once for all by constitutional provision The sole question that I shall consider ere is whether or not this is a propition

time to call a convention. I fully believe that it is a better time than we will have

again, and, begging your pardon for say-ing so, I have not seen one good argu-ment that you have advanced to support the position that you have taken that this

s an inauspicious time.

I remember that about three years ago (your issue of January 30, 1894), when the question was being agitated by the Legislature, that I addressed a by the Legislature, that I addressed a communication to you (which you published), urging that a convention be called at that time, and you then urged the same objection that you now urge—to wit, that you are afraid to make the venture, for fear the convention, if held, would be against us. Now, suppose that Legislature had at that time ordered a vote on the subject, and a convention had been ordered by the people, why ere this time the convenpeople, why ere this time the convention would have been held, and, look tion would have been held, and, look-ing at the political events of the past three years, no one can doubt that a large majority of it would have been composed of our best material-viz Democrats, I believe that if the De mocratic party could not be wrecked in this State during the past three years that it stands in no danger of be-ing wrecked during the next three Last fall we had no money limited supply; we were weakened the popular prejudice against four years of so-called Democratic national administration, which had brought no good; we had tremendous (claimed) disgood; we had tremendous (claimed) dis-affection from our ranks, including the highest official in the State; and yet, with all these troubles, we won by a handsome figure, and had it been an election for Legislature, or for a constitutional convention, we would have had a very safe majority in either body. If such was then the result

handicapped as we were, can there be any question about what the result will be, say eighteen months from now. be, say eighteen months from now, when the Republican party shall have demonstrated (as it will demonstrate) its total inability and disinclination to do what it has prophesied and promised it would do, and, therefore, the reaction against it shall have set in?
I tell you the Democratic party of this State will be stronger by far eighteen months from to-day than it is to-day, and it is now already stronger than it was

last November. If we fall to have a convention now, then we could hardly have one under four years, and we had better avail ourselves of the strength we have to-day than to trust to that we may have four years from now. That a constitu-tional change is coming in the compara-tively near future is inevitable, and the longer we postpone it the greater the dan-ger of its being controlled by the worst ent in the State. You seem never to want it until you

can be absolutely certain that the best element (Democrats) will control it. Will the time ever come when you will, or can, bility of doubt? say that an opposition convention could enact a new election law and redistrict the State for members of the Legislature and for Congress. I ask if an opposition Le-gislature could not do both these things; and do you doubt that if they get the power they would do them?

If a convention be ordered in May the present Legislature could, and probably

would, be called together in extra ses to provide for holding the convention, and to district the State for election of the members of the convention. Then have the election for members of the convention about the last of May, 1898, and if the Democrats could not elect a majority of its members at that time, then I do not believe it will ever elect a majority. The Democrats of the State are looking to the Democratic party for relief from the evil of the Underwood Constitution,

I do not blame the Staunton convention for not having declared on this subject for not having declared on this subject; the whole public mind was filled at that time with national issues, and it could not calmly consider this question. There will be no other convention of the party before the election in May, and hence I believe it is the due of the whole Democratic press and of every prominent Democratic press and of every prominent Democratic press and their exertions to have the crat to use all their exertions to have the election in May go in favor of a conven-tion. Do this, and if it be ordered, then elect the best men in the State to com pose that convention. We can never know in advance that we can do this with more certainty than we know it to day. The Democratic tide is beginning to rise, and it will be flood tide now for at least three years. Now is the time for us to act in this matter. Don't let us be fainthearted, but let us determine to dare and do. If we wait until we are repu-diated for not daring to do the right thing, and another element secures our Legislature, then where will we be?

J. C. PARKEH.

The Iron Rings of 1813.

A great inquiry is now being made in different German towns for the iron mourning-rings of 1813. The history of these curious memorials of German pa-triotism may not be generally known. During the national awakening against Napoleon, in 1813, the princesses of the Royal house made an appeal to the people for the sacrifice of personal ornaments, not unlike that made by the Long Papiliament at the beginning of the sacrifice. since his appointment, is giving great | Parliament, at the beginning of the civil wars. Gold mourning-rings were, sequently, sent in immense numbers to the Treasury, in Berlin, and each sender received in acknowledgment an iron ring, upon which was inscribed, "Gold I give fewer than 114 gold rings were sacrificed to the Fatherland, and iron rings sent hither in exchange. Specimens of iron rings are now worth more than heir weight in gold.

National Bank to Quit Business. STREATOR, ILL., January 14.—The City National Bank yesterday notified its depositors to come and get their money, as the bank was going out of The bank was organized six business. The bank was organized six years ago, with a capital stock of \$100,-000, all paid. During the last eighteen months business has been very dul, and the stockholders decided that their money could be more profitably invested. About \$40,000 was paid to depositors

Danger Environs Us

Danger Environs Us

if we live in a region where malaria is
prevalent. It is useless to hope to escape
it if unprovided with a medicinal safeguard. Wherever the endemic is most
prevalent and malignant—in South and
Central America, the West Indies, and
certain portions of Mexico and the 1sthmus of Panama—Hostetter's Stomach Bitters has proved a remedy for and preventive of the disease in every form. Not
less effective is it in curing rheumatism,
liver and kidney complaints, dyspepsia,
billousness, and nervousness.

The Fourqurean-Price Company.

Our Special Clearance Sale

offers values not obtaina ble at any other time of the year. The inventory must be taken-and the stock must be reduced to the lowest limit possible. Hence our offering of these unusual values.

Blankets.

Extra fine California Blankets, extra large and heavy, full 1% size-original price \$12 a pair, They are very little \$7.75 dling and they go at A PAIR.

from

The famous Leaksville Blank. ets-made especially for us of selected wool-and the most ser. viceable and best all-around Blanket we ever sold—at \$4, 85 and \$6 for 10-, 11-, and 12-4 size-now

\$2.98, \$3.98, and \$4.98. Quilts.

Fine Marseilles Quilts-extra arge size and hemmed ready for

\$2.50 Quilts for \$2.00. \$3.00 Quilts for \$2.50.

Ladies' Hose.

ed, sizes 8 and 8½, regular 50 and 62½c, a 25c. pair. Choice..... Black Goods. The Black Dress Goods of-

fer some great values to re-

An extra special-Ladies' Su-perfine French Balbriggan Hose,

some plain and some silk clock.

duce the stock. A selection now will well repay you.

@000000000@ Houseware Department

Again the might of the lowest prices will tell here to-

500 2-QUART COVERED BUCKETS Real Carisbad China Cuspadores, firely

decorated by hand, regularly 50c., for 20. 35 dozen Gas Globes, assorted colors, 600 Feather Dusters, soft and fine inch feathers, extra long abony handles, worth 40c., for to-day's sale, 150 FINEST DECORATED CARLSBAD

CHINA DINNER SETS, 10) PIECES, NEWEST SHAPES, TWO STYLES TO SELECT FROM; ACTUAL VALUE, E. FOR \$15, COMPLETE. 12 sets only-100-Piece Nicely Decorated Dinner Sets, guaranteed first quality, and not to craze, worth \$15, for \$6.98, complete

Patent Flour-Sifters, strongly made, & Substantially-Made Clothes-Horses, extra large size, worth \$1.48, for \$0.c.

Brass Banquet Lamps, genuine onyt
column, open-work bottom, detachable
font, worth regularly \$5.50, for to-days sale, \$2.58. Ladies' or Gentlemen's Rockers, solif

antique oak, sole-leather seats, plane finish, cheap at \$4, for \$1.98. 900 BEST QUALITY HEAVY RETIN-NED PIE PLATES, FULL 9-INCH. WORTH 5c., FOR 1 1-2c.

200 Wash-Boards, strongly made, worth, 15c., for fc. 25 12-Piece Tollet Sets, new undergland tecorations and shapes, cheap at \$3, for 200 Crystal Glass Bowls, 7-inch size.

The Fourgurean-Price Co.

Two Navies Compared. (New York Times.)

worth 15c., for 3c.

It is not a matter of immediat portance, but it is interesting to the estimate put on the relative sir of the Spanish and American nar a competent authority. The Sat of the Spanish and American in a competent authority. The S Review, of London, is generally nized as unusually well inform careful on such points. In it issue it states that "in mere no keels, Spain is, indeed, far ahead, counts fifty-eight, as against A forty-two, but the superiority is fictitious." It sums up the A force of battleships and cruisers a to fourteen for Spain, the for force of battleships and cruiser to fourteen for Spain, the f "built since 1885," the latter "an And it concludes: "If the withere is a chance that the might penetrate the long nav defence along the American s work some damage before to overtaken. But that they woon come to a disastrous en adventure is no more to be do that they would from the outselessly overmatched in Cuban lessly overmatched in Cuban of the morale of the America boasting to assert that no America of 20,000 men would have was years in futile skirmishing as the lards have in Cuba, and there is son to suppose that the Spani has any more fight in it than the

geogrammic original o

Down Goes the High Hat. (Cincinnati Commercial-Tribune

Chicago theatre-goors and Chitre-managers have taken more the new anti-high-hat ordinance expected, and Alderman Plotke, of the law, is quite a hero. T disposition inherent in the Chic to denounce aldermen and the and this was so strong in the Chronicle that it denounced Plotass and the ordinance as ridicular to the total the transparent of the leading the city it was found that it struck a popular chord. Promine women, patrons of the play, we unanimous in their expressions of the abolition of the theatre. They vigorously denounced the as ludicrous. "a curse," "an vexation," and one said its aboliman act of common decency." pressions probably contributed thation of sentiment in favor of and there has been a general of